Title (en)

METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR CONFORMING ASSEMBLY SYSTEMS TO CONTOURS OF CURVED SURFACES

Title (de)

VERFAHREN UND SYSTEM ZUR ANPASSUNG VON MONTAGESYSTEMEN AN KONTUREN VON GEKRÜMMTEN OBERFLÄCHEN

Title (fr)

PROCÉDÉ ET SYSTÈME PERMETTANT DE CONFORMER DES SYSTÈMES GLOBAUX AUX CONTOURS DE SURFACES COURBES

Publication

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Application

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Abstract (en)

[origin: US2014237793A1] Methods and systems for configuring a manual and/or automated processing system to conform to a contoured surface of a structure are disclosed. One example includes an automated processing system with a flexible rail configuration. One or more turnbuckles and/ or other actuators configure and hold the flexible rail configuration into conformity with the surface (which could be flat or of a curvature) during processing by the automated processing system. Additionally, one or more combination suction-cup pressurized-air devices may be coupled to the flexible rail configuration for selectively attaching the flexible rail configuration to the contoured surface and also for selectively releasing and/or facilitating elevation and movement of the flexible rail configuration above and about the contoured surface. A multi-function end effector may be associated with the flexible rail configuration and be moveable relative thereto.

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